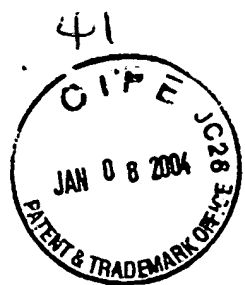


2815



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Inventor(s) : Teiichirou Chiba *et al.*
Serial Number : 09/492,761
Filed : January 27, 2000
For : SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER
Examiner : Chris C. Chu
Group Art Unit : 2815

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 8, 2004

Dear Sir:

The following remarks are submitted in response to the Official action mailed October 8, 2003. The Official action set forth a three-month period for response, making this response due on or before January 8, 2004.

Please amend the above-identified application is set forth below.